

THE ARIZONA SILVER BELT

OFFICIAL PAPER OF GILA COUNTY.

Saturday, July 7, 1888.

There will not probably be any paper fractional currency issued now. The Senate committee has reported against the house bill providing therefor. In place of it they have reported a bill reducing the fee on postal notes in sums below one dollar to one cent.

Lovers of rubies may shortly expect to get their favorite stones very cheap. The annexation of Burma has put the great ruby mines into the control of the government, and the question is now raised as to whether the government should not retain them and prevent the market from being glutted by over-production. The same thing happened 18 years ago in Siam, when the sapphire mines were so over-worked that the stones greatly depreciated in value.

Pasture's Rabbit Destroyer a Failure.

The South Australian Register, to hand by the latest mail, contains an account of some experiments at Sydney with M. Pasteur's microbes of chicken cholera. A number of rabbits were inoculated with the microbes on a Saturday morning and placed under close supervision in isolated boxes; but on Monday the rabbits had not shown the slightest traces of the disease, which, according to M. Pasteur, should prove fatal in about twenty-four hours. The experiments were not regarded as final. Microbes may be strengthened by cultivation; but that will be a matter of time.

The Mental Future of the Lower Animal.

In the current number of the North American Review, William Hovell Ballou discusses the question: "Are the Lower Animals Approaching Man?" Considering the remarkable advance in evolution of the lower animals, he submits the following propositions:

1. That many species of lower animals of to-day possess a higher mentality to-day than the lower class of men to-day.
2. That the mental differences of man and the lower species are to some extent the result of training, experience and tenacity of life.
3. That the mental future of the lower animal may become more equalized with that of man; that a method of conversing with animals is possible.

In discussing the third proposition Mr. Ballou says:

It has been clearly established by evolutionists that man, like the domestic animal, descended through geological periods in which he had no mentality above instinct. Before he showed mental activity man, according to the best and now agreed authorities, led by Cope, was an anthropoid ape, and before that an anthropoid lemur. In those early stages of his history he was not endowed with a potential mentality. But what seems the most startling in modern times is that the human child, left to himself, according to Edward S. Morse, President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, would be an idiot or a wild man. None of the overwhelming, vast knowledge accumulated through ages seems to become instinctive in the human race or is hereditarily bequeathed. The knowledge which the child acquires has to be taught him. After he learns the elements from others he begins to use his organs of sight and hearing to add to his knowledge. What does this teach? Simply that the lower animals are yet children, and to become learned like man must be taught as diligently as he, and from their infancy. If man has required 15,000 years to accumulate the sum total of knowledge of to-day, certainly tireless years must be spent with the lower species to advance their mentality to a state somewhat equal to his own. It is obvious from the array of visible intelligence in the modern lower animal that he can be taught much more than is known by man, together with its utility.

To the query: "How can the lower animals be taught?" he makes answer: "The best animals must be separated from their kind, those showing the highest mentality mated with each other. Their offspring must be as carefully taught, as is the babe, such mere elements of knowledge as they are best enabled to acquire. The descendants through successive generations and through years, if necessary, must receive the same diligent attention and teaching that has advanced the mentality of man. That the lower animal of himself has been unable to acquire knowledge by experience to such an extent as man is no reason why we should despair of his ultimate emancipation. Given the same training and advantages that man has enjoyed himself with during the last several hundred years and many lower animals would be endowed with much knowledge and its utility, and be able to converse with us."

In conclusion, the author presumes that some method may be discovered by which many of the lower animals can communicate to us what they know.

A Dangerous Herb.

The Deputy of Oaxaca, Mr. Perfect Carrera, has taken to the City of Mexico a plant that grows in Mixteca which the natives call the "herb of prophecy." It is taken in varying doses, and in a few moments a sleep is produced similar in all respects to, and we might say identical with, the hypnotic state, for the patient answers with closed eyes questions that are put to him, and is completely insensible. The pathologic state induced on whomsoever partakes of the herb brings with it a kind of prophetic gift and double sight. Furthermore, he loses his will, is completely under the control of another to such a degree that the sleeping person would leap from a balcony, shoot or stab himself at any moment if ordered to do so. On returning to himself he remembers nothing of what he has done.—La Luz, Mexico.

A Transatlantic Balloon.

The Paris Martin gives details concerning the projected balloon trip of Capt. Jovis, a Frenchman, who proposes to start across the Atlantic for New York in August. The balloon, named the Atlantic, has a cubic contents of 25,000 cubic meters, a diameter of 36 meters and a circumference of 110 meters—the largest balloon ever built. It is provided with two enormous floats of basket-work, covered with oilskin in order to keep it above water in the event of a descent at sea. The car will be lighted by electricity from storage batteries. It is estimated the passage will require from three to three and a half days. Capt. Jovis announces that four persons, including a sailor, will accompany him.

"Bible Wine."

Another side issue of our temperance discussion is the so-called "Bible wine" theory, which maintains that the wine used in Palestine in the time of Christ was not alcoholic. I have been unable to find evidence that the composition of the juice of the grape, the laws of fermentation, or the practice in the making and using of wine were different in that country at that time from those in other countries, or in that country at other times; and believe it safe to say that the theory that Bible wine was different from other wine, that it had not the alcohol which other wines contain, is without any basis to support it, in the opinion of the student of science.—Professor Atwater, in the Century.

Dakota's next Statehood and Divisionist Convention will be held at Huron, July 10th and 11th. Seven hundred delegates will attend. Conventions of lawyers, farmers and business men and clergymen will be held July 12th to review the divisionist conventionists' plans.

Some of the Strange Fish That Live at the Bottom of the Ocean.

"What an odd fish!" An old member of the Maritime Exchange was exhibiting in a bottle one of the queerest submarine monsters that the fancy could paint. It apparently had no beginning and no ending. One could hardly tell where its outlines left off, and the alcohol in which it was preserved began. It was like jelly.

"It must be remembered," explained the owner, "that at the depth of one thousand fathoms the pressure upon a fish or any other body is equal to a ton to a square inch. These flabby-looking fishes, that can be tied in a knot at the surface, at such depths are firm-bodied and vigorous. When fish, adapted by organization to these depths, are brought to the surface, frequently their bodies are ruptured, their viscera protrude, their eyes start out and they present the appearance of having suffered a frightful death. When the fish ascends and the pressure upon its body becomes less and less, the gases in its body begin to expand and the expansion causes the demoralized appearance of the fish. If the fish could be popped out of the sea in an instant, it would probably explode with a bang when it reached the surface."

"Just look at its jaws," continued the exhibitor. "When the fish are brought to the surface most of them appear to be soft, pulpy masses. The bones and muscles appear to be feebly developed. The tissues seem thin, weak and easily ruptured. These conditions, implying muscular weakness, are apparently inconsistent with the powerful shape of the jaws and the rapacious-looking teeth of some of the predaceous fishes."

"How do they live?" "That is hard to say. To the absence of light is due many of the most wonderful peculiarities of the deep-sea fish. Some of them are totally blind, having no eyes at all or mere rudimentary eyes. Others have huge eyes, so organized as to collect as many light rays as possible. Sunlight, it is said, does not penetrate to a depth of two hundred fathoms. If there is any light there at all it is the merest glimmer and below that depth there is absolute darkness."

"Now these deep-sea fishes being cut off altogether from the sunlight, many of them furnish their own light. They have no organized gas companies, but each furnishes his own light—carries a lantern or torch around with him. They have organs that emit a phosphorescent gleam and shed light on their path. Some of them carry little torches in the form of tentacles that rise from the tops of the heads. Many of them have regular symmetrical rows of luminous spots on their sides."—N. Y. Mail and Express.

"When a man thinks the world is his oyster he can soon manage to get himself into a stew."—N. O. Picayune.

BENEFITS OF DRAINAGE.

An Investment Which Returns Most Lush Luscious Interest.

Evaporation is a cooling process. We are told that people in the East cool their drinking water by exposing it to the hot sun under a wet blanket. If water, therefore, is brought through the ground, instead of being allowed to stay on or near its surface, evaporation to a great degree will be stopped, and the ground will be rendered more genial to growth. Ground that is not relieved by drains of its surface water bakes upon drying. This baking packs the soil and runs some stiff soils together in such a way that the entrance of water into such soils is to a great degree forbidden. Baky ground is incapable of receiving water from the air or the earth beneath; wet and baky soils will yield but feebly to the pulverizing influences of cultivation. The more finely the soil is pulverized the more permeable is it to the direct and indirect nourishing influences of water and air. Soils saturated with water will not yield to the decompositions necessary to the nourishment of plants.

When we consider that most agricultural plants absorb water chiefly when presented as "capillary" water, or simply as "moisture," we can realize how the growth of plants is checked by immersion in water. Water, on its way to the underdrains, carries air into the soil, and this warmer air meeting the cooler earth causes condensation of moisture, and thus a dew is formed "in" the ground. This dew in a dry ground is much more beneficial than were it deposited above ground. Soil rendered warm and permeable invites the roots of plants to a greater depth. These roots are now placed beyond the control of the weather. Well-drained ground may be likened to a sponge, both able to keep water and to absorb it from the level of the drains whenever needed in a dry season. I have no doubt every one knows something of this action, which is beautifully illustrated when water is supplied to house plants by placing it in the saucers which underlie the pots. Barren, dry hill-sides have been brought to a high degree of fertility by under-draining, accompanied by manuring. The flow of water, instead of being "over" the ground, is thus caused to go "through" it, and thus the valuable fertility is not carried away. The wanting element—water—has in such cases been secured by placing the drains laterally. The drains empty, if desired, into an open ditch, which may be stocked with trout. This state of things must not be expected to work itself admirably the first year, as it takes some time for the ground to become sponge-like. The alternate wetting and drying of the soil will open subterranean channels in which water may find its way to the drains. This network of subterranean channels, or sponge formation, takes time for formation.

In concluding, let me mention a few advantages to be reaped from well drained land: time, ease in working, ability to stand the treading of animals, ease of hauling, freedom from the effects of drought and heaving, ability to grow larger and better crops. Judicious and careful drainage is like putting money in a bank that pays from twenty-five per cent. to one hundred per cent.—John E. Parry, in N. Y. Observer.

WORK FOR WOMEN.

How Domestic Knowledge Can Be Turned to Pecuniary Profit.

While there are many women, busy thinkers and willing workers, in farm houses throughout the land anxious to solve the problem of self-support, comparatively few expect to find any solution of it at home. They are willing to venture into unknown fields, to go to the great cities and toil as telegraph operators, as workers in industrial design, and in a thousand ways, where they are required to meet increased expenses of living and the competition of the thousands who are drawn hither by the attraction of city life. Only after they have toiled for years and learned how much drudgery is required to make a bare living in a single room in a city boarding-house, do they turn back to the remembrance of the old farm-life with regret. Very few women are wise enough to turn their domestic knowledge to pecuniary profit, and when they do they are apt to trust their goods to some Woman's Exchange, instead of going to the city themselves and making their own business arrangements with some grocer or agent, or with customers directly—a far better method whenever practical. When they think of doing any thing of this kind, they instinctively turn to the greater cities, though they may be far away, instead of to the smaller ones nearer by. The markets of New York are better supplied than these smaller cities. It is not difficult to get good French bread in New York, which takes the place of the domestic article, but it is impossible to get even fair bread in many of the larger and smaller inland cities. Any farmer who brings in bread or home-made pies to these cities will meet with a ready remunerative sale for his wares. It is just three years ago since a wise young woman with a strong affection for art, but a stronger common sense which kept her from indulging impracticable dreams, conceived the idea of becoming a "home-made" baker. She began by making pies, taking care to use the best materials, allowing only a small profit for herself on each pie. She lived within fifteen miles of a city of fifty thousand inhabitants, and her father was in the habit of going thither to retail some of his farm produce twice a week. Her pie found a ready market; then she began to make wheat and Graham bread, charging only eight cents a loaf, and coming in competition with the bakers, as she made a better loaf at about the same price. Her father, whose name stands at the head of her business, though the daughter has done the work, is now the largest baker in that city. His daughter employs ten or twelve hands, and continues her work on plain domestic principles. There is room in that city for a number of other just such bakers. There is always a demand in the cities for cottage cheese or pot cheese which is fresh and well made. The mass of

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